Boosting sale of DMS Milk

351. SHRI MURLI DEORA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of milk in polypacks returned to Delhi Milk Scheme during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the additional expenditure incurred in reprocessing of these polypacks;

(c) whether the sale of milk had decreased as a result of increase in prices and if so, the action taken to reduce it and boosting the sale; and

(d) the distribution losses reported during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) The year-wise percentage of returned milk for the last three years *i.e.* 2000-2001, 2001-2002, 2002-2003 is 7.6 per cent, 8.64 per cent and 3.88 per cent respectively.

(b) The expenditure incurred in reprocessing of returned polypacks was approximately Rs. 4.2 crores for the last three years.

(c) Yes, Sir. The sale of milk had decreased as a result of increase in prices with effect from 1st March, 2003. However, action has been taken to boost the sale of milk including conversion of Depots into All Day Milk Stalls, operation of abandoned milk booths and face lifting of existing milk stalls.

(d) The distribution losses for the last three years, *i.e.* 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03 were Rs. 84.91 lacs, Rs. 95.57 lacs and Rs. 43.34 lacs respectively.

Shortage of milk in Delhi

352. SHRI LALIT SURI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there was an acute shortage of milk in Delhi during last August;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor, especially in view of higher yield of milk by the milk animals in the area around Delhi during monsoon which was above average this year; and